

DFEH News Brief

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STATE LAUNCHES CIVIL RIGHTS CLINIC AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY-BAKERSFIELD

ELK GROVE, CA – The California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) announced a new partnership today with California State University Bakersfield's (CSUB) School of Business and Public Administration to develop a civil rights clinic for graduate students.

The partnership's goals are closely aligned with the department's mission: to train future professionals to investigate and resolve employment discrimination complaints and to develop a pipeline for students interested in serving the state with the DFEH and other related State agencies.

In the DFEH-CSUB clinic, Master of Public Administration students will study legal theory and investigative techniques, and apply that knowledge to investigating individual employment discrimination complaints. This fall the DFEH will train 22 students from three programs, including six from CSUB.

"The Department is excited to work with CSUB as our newest partner to train future leaders in public administration," said DFEH Director Phyllis Cheng. "Graduate students in the program will develop the tools to enable them to do important work to protect employees from workplace discrimination and to protect employers from a violation."

CSUB School of Business and Public Administration Dean Dr. John Emery added, "DFEH internships engage students in community activities and prepare them for successful entry into the labor market. Because the internships are competitive, the Civil Rights Clinic draws the best and the brightest students."

The partnership with CSUB follows similar collaborations with the law schools of UC Irvine and UC Davis.

In addition to the three DFEH partnerships, any university or college student that is not in a DFEH partnership school can apply for internships at: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov/res/docs/InternshipAppl.doc>.

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The DFEH is the state agency charged with enforcing California's civil rights laws. The mission of the DFEH is to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations and from hate violence. For more information, visit the Department's Web site at www.dfeh.ca.gov.